NIGHTWING

DEATH OF THE FAMILY

HIGGINS
BARROWS
FERREIRA

15

RATED T TEEN

FEB 2013

DC COMICS™

THE NEW 52!

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GOTHAM CITY
THE THINGS ARE *EVERYWHERE.* HOW COULD YOU *MISS* 'EM?
ASSUMING YOU DON'T *CARE?* IT'S EASY.
SAYS THE GUY ON MORE BANNERS THAN *ANYONE.*
YOU LITERALLY *ARE* THE POSTER BOY FOR *HALY'S CIRCUS,* JIMMY.
COMING SOON TO AMUSEMENT MILE
TAKE IT UP WITH GRAYSON. I'M THE *LAST* GUY WHO WANTS HIS FACE ON A WALL.
WELL, WHEN IT LOOKS LIKE *THAT,* IT'S NO WONDER...
UH-HUH. STICK TO GYMNASTICS, MARC. COMEDY'S NOT YOUR THING.
SO, YOU OUT OF HERE?
GONNA GRAB A DRINK. BUT I'LL SEE YOU GUYS BACK AT THE TRAIN?
COOL. LATER, JIMMY.
TSK TSK TSK
NO... I JUST DON'T SEE IT. I MEAN...

...WHY WOULD ANYONE THINK WE LOOK ALIKE?
THERE'S HARDLY A RESEMBLANCE.
UH, SORRY...DO I KNOW YOU?
OH, COME ON NOW, JIMMY--I'M DISAPPOINTED. AFTER ALL...
Heh... heh heh No... heh... NOT YOU hehe NOT HEHE
...US CLOWNS GOTTA STICK TOGETHER!
YOUUU EEHEHE-HE HEHA HAHA HAHA
HA HA HA HA HA HA HAHAHAA HA HA
OH, WAIT A SECOND!

After witnessing the murder of his parents, teenager Richard "Dick" Grayson was taken under Batman's wing and trained as Robin, the Dark Knight's partner in his war on crime. But when the boy became a man, he left the Batcave and now serves his own brand of justice!

DC COMICS™ PRESENTS: NIGHTWING IN

DEATH OF THE FAMILY

CLEANING HOUSE

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*BATMAN #15. --B.C.
...IT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION.
AND FOR BATMAN TO THINK OTHERWISE...*
YEAH, WELL, BEING MAD ABOUT IT ISN'T GOING TO HELP ANYTHING RIGHT NOW, NIGHTWING.
I KNOW, BATGIRL.
THEN STOP. FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS.
AFTER I GET HALY'S CIRCUS OUT OF TOWN.
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE KEPT THEM HERE. NOT ONCE THE JOKER TURNED UP.
WITH THE JOKER BREAKING RAYA OUT OF BLACKGATE PRISON*, ARE YOU HEADING THERE FIRST?
ALL RIGHT, THEN.
*NIGHTWING #14. --B.C.
GOOD LUCK. STAY SAFE.
YOU, TOO.
DEET DEET DEET
SONIA? THANKS FOR CALLING ME BACK. LISTEN, I NEED EVERYONE TO START PACKING THEIR--
YOU NEED TO GET TO AMUSEMENT MILE, DICK. GET HERE NOW.
WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?
JIMMY'S DEAD.

NO BODY LIKES A KNOCKOFF
OH GOD, NO...

EXCUSE-- EXCUSE ME!
I NEED...I NEED EVERYONE TO GO BACK TO THE TRAIN AND PACK. WE'RE LEAVING GOTHAM... TONIGHT.
JUST 'CAUSE HE LOOKED LIKE HIM...
JOKER KILLED JIMMY, DICK... →SOB←
IS--IS EVERYONE OKAY? IS EVERYONE HERE?
WHAT ABOUT RAYA?
--HOTELS OR FRIENDS OF FRIENDS ONLY.
SONIA, SHUT IT ALL DOWN AND GET OUT. DON'T STAY WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY--
DICK...
UNTIL THE POLICE, OR...SOMEBODY STOPS THIS.
THE POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR HER NOW, CHRISTINA...
BUT IF JOKER KILLED JIMMY CAUSE HE THINKS HE'S A "KNOCK-OFF..."
...THEN WHAT DOES HE WANT RAYA FOR?
JOKER RAIDS BLACKGATE BREAKS OUT CIRCUS CRIMINAL

WAKEY, WAKEY, LITTLE GIRL.
IT'S ALMOST TIME.
WHA...?
WHERE... WHERE AM I?
SHH... SHH...
...ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS...
...AND YOU'LL RUIN THE JOKE.
The next six hours are agony.

I watch the circus members clear the train and everyone head out of the city.
Not one of them looks me in the eye.
By the time the sun comes up, the police have removed Jimmy's body.
And they've secured the rest of the park.
Which lets me slip off to Blackgate.
But after an hour of canvassing Raya's block, I've still got nothing.
Nothing but a serious need for caffeine.
-YAWWWN-
And one last angle...

GOTHAM CITY MORGUE.
...I wish I didn't have to cover.
DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY BODIES I SEE IT ON, THE SMILE STILL CREEPS ME OUT. EVERY TIME...
DEET DEET DEET
What now...?
HELLO?
DICK? IT'S SONIA.
SONIA? ARE YOU OKAY?
WHAT HAPPENED TO JIMMY ISN'T YOUR FAULT.
TNK
WHAT DO YOU NEED, SONIA?
I'M... KIND OF TIED UP. CAN'T IT WAIT?
I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT.
AN HOUR. THERE'S PAPERWORK YOU HAVE TO SIGN TO KEEP CONSTRUCTION ON HOLD.
IT WON'T TAKE LONG, DICK. I'M STILL IN THE CITY, SO I CAN MEET YOU WHEREVER--
YOU'RE STILL IN GOTHAM?

I'M STILL IN GOTHAM.
SONIA, I TOLD YOU--
I'M ONE OF THE HEADS OF A MAJOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION, DICK. I'M NOT GOING TO JUST PICK UP AND *LEAVE*. I *CAN'T*.
AND EVEN IF I *COULD*, I *REFUSE* TO LIVE MY LIFE IN *FEAR*.
WHICH IS THE SAME REASON *JIMMY* DIDN'T LEAVE.
IT'S ALSO WHY, ONCE AGAIN, I'M TELLING YOU--
--THIS ISN'T YOUR FAULT.
Jet fuel...?
NAH, DOC, THEY SAY HE CAME UP WITH THE FORMULA FOR THE GAS *HIMSELF*...
DICK? ARE YOU THERE?
Dammit. Need more time.
SORRY, SONIA..
..GOTTA GO.
I'll have to make a quick trip to the loft to set up the computers for a chemical analysis...

LATER...
...before hopping a train downtown.
Doubling back to shake any tails takes time.
But at this point...
...I can't be too careful.
DICK... HEY. THANKS FOR COM.NG. IT WON'T TAKE LONG.
SO IT'S JUST THESE?
YES. AND IN.TIALS ON THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE.
OKAY.
WHAT YOJ SAID BEFORE... THANKS.
WHAT I SAID BEFORE IS THE TRUTH, DICK.
YEAH, IT'S JUST... HE WAS MY FRIEND. THEY'RE ALL MY FRIENDS. I...ASKED THEM TO STAY IN GOTHAM.
AND NOW I FEEL - KE...I LET THEM DOWN.
IT'S GO NG TO BE OKAY, DICK...
...I PROMISE.
YEAH... I HOPE SO...

TONY ZUCCO
KILLED
MY PARENTS
HE KILLED THEM.
TONY ZUCCO KILLED THEM...
SORRY... IT'S... SORRY...
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT'S... I MEAN...
YOUR DAD WAS TONY ZUCCO...
BEEP BEEP
My chemical analysis result? Talk about saved by the--
OH, MAN...
DICK...?
I'M... I'M SORRY, SONIA...

"...BUT THERE'S SOMEWHERE ELSE I GOTTA BE.."
KLINE INDUSTRIES...
Five years ago, Kline Industries was a rising power in the aerospace field.
Until allegations of corporate espionage drove them towards bankruptcy...
...and their fuel formula was proven to be stolen from Wayne Enterprises.
It was a knockoff.
OH, GOOD! YOU GOT MY MESSAGE! I'LL ADMIT...I WAS WORRIED IT MIGHT GO OVER YOUR HEAD.
YOU KNOW, THIS LAST YEAR'S BEEN A REAL SNOOZE TO WATCH, BAT-FAKE.
I MEAN, YOU COMING BACK HERE, DESPERATE TO PROVE YOURSELF...BEING ALL SERIOUS...
...YAWN!
HAAA HAHAHA HAHA

WHEEEHEHE...
...HEHEHE...
BUT THAT'S OKAY--THAT'S WHAT TONIGHT'S ABOUT. WE'RE GOING TO THROW A PARTY TO WAKE YOU UP!
HAAA HAHAHA HAHA
NO...
CONSIDER THIS...

...THE INVITATION!
HEH HEHE HEHEHE
RAYA...
HEHE HEHEHE HEHEHE
IT'S A NICE TOUCH, RIGHT? BAT-LITE'S OWN LITTLE KNOCK-OFF!
HAHA HA HA
HAVE FUN YOU TWO!
HAAAAA HAHAHA

HAA AAAAAHAHA HAHAHA
RAYA-- LISTEN TO ME!
HAHA HA
THIS ISN'T YOU! FIGHT THROUGH IT! FIGHT--
HAAAA AAAHAHA HAHA
=UGH=
HAHA HAHAHA HA
=OOF=
HA

RAYA-- IT'S ME. YOU KNOW ME!
HEHEHE
ARGHH!
SHRRP
HEHE
HEHEHE HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
Her body's breaking down. Rejecting the toxin.
She's not laughing.
RAYA!
HEH HEH HEH HAA HAAA HAAAA

She's screaming.
HAAAAAAA HAAAAAHAAAA HAAAA
STAY WITH ME, RAYA! STAY WITH ME!
HAAAAAAAA HAAAAAA
She's dying.
HAAAAAA HAAAAAAAAA
No idea of the formula Joker used--no idea if an antitoxin will work.
KSSSSS
HAAAA AHHHHH...
...S-SORRY... I'M...S-SORRY... F-FOR...
...FOR...EV... EVERY...
RAYA!
It's ten minutes before I look up.
Before I stop.
Before...
...she's gone.

WHAT THE...?
NO...
NO!!
WHAT:
A SURPRISE PARTY!
WHERE:
AMUSEMENT MILE!
HOSTED BY:
HALVI'S CIRCUS
NEXT: THE GREATEST MOST HORRIFIC SHOW ON EARTH!

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